



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE CORRECTIONS

R & D NEWS

ADJC RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

Janet Napolitano, Governor

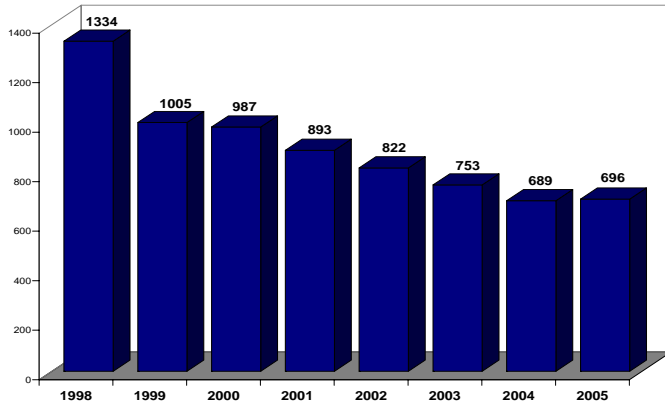
Michael D. Branham, Director □ Dianne Gadow, Deputy Director

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Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections * 1624 West Adams * Phoenix, Arizona 85007 * 602-542-2053

Figure 1: ADJC new commits by year



CURRENT ADJC RESEARCH

**Stella Vasquez, Michael Jones and John Vivian,
(September 2005) Secure Population Projections.**

The ADJC institutional population is projected to increase from a secure population of 648 on August 14, 2005 to an average of 715 in fiscal year (FY) 2006. During the first 12 months of the forecast period, the projection assumes ADJC admissions will equal the actual number of admissions during FY 2005. Thereafter, admissions are assumed to increase proportionately with the projected increase in Arizona's at-risk juvenile population. There were 696 ADJC commitments during FY 2005 and 689 commitments during FY 2004 (see Figure 1). While the observed increase in commitments was very modest (approximately one percent), it represented a departure from the longer term declining trend in annual intake.

JUVENILE JUSTICE TRIVIA

How pugnacious are ADJC juveniles compared to other Arizona juveniles?

Jennifer Grimes, (October 2005) Correctional Program Checklist

In the Spring of 2005, Research & Development staff received NIC sponsored training on how to apply the Correctional Program Assessment Inventory (CPAI) to our programs. While learning how to use this tool, we have applied it to three programs: Aegis, DBT and Journey. The CPAI recently underwent a revision and has become the Correctional Program Checklist (CPC). The CPC resulted from an assessment of over 40,000 adult and juvenile offenders in over 400 correctional programs. The CPC includes new items, as well as those CPAI items that were consistently found to reduce recidivism. The CPC is divided into two basic areas; capacity and content. The capacity area is designed to measure whether a correctional program has the capability to deliver evidence based interventions and services for offenders. There are three domains within capacity: Leadership and Development; Staff; and Quality Assurance. The content area focuses on the substantive domains of Offender Assessment and Treatment, and the extent to which the program meets the principles of risk, need, responsivity and treatment. R/D looks forward to using the CPC with program managers and staff to build effective treatment programs for the youth in our care.

Table 1: Average Time to Recidivism

Year of release from ADJC	Number of days to recidivism
1999	336
2000	440
2001	507

JUVENILE JUSTICE LITERATURE REVIEW

Sue Righthand and Carlann Welch, (2001) *Juveniles Who Have Sexually Offended: A Review of the Professional Literature*, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Juvenile sex offenders share many characteristics with juveniles who commit other types of offenses, and experts argue that sex offender treatment programs should adopt a more holistic approach and not just address sex offending behaviors. The number of juvenile sex offender treatment programs increased from 20 in 1982 to 684 in 1994. Delinquency focused multisystemic treatment (MST) has gained empirical support as an effective approach to treat juvenile sex offenders. Despite the prevailing view that early intervention is important and that offense-specific peer group therapy should be used, "there is not a shred of scientific evidence to support this stance." "What virtually all of the studies show...is that relatively few juvenile sex offenders are charged with a subsequent crime."

Aaron Kupchik, (August 2003), *Prosecuting Adolescents in Criminal Courts: Criminal or Juvenile Justice? Social Problems*.

Kupchik argues that little is known about how adult courts process juvenile offenders. His research involved observations of 290 hearings of a specialized New York City criminal court. The court only dealt with juvenile offenders. He sat beside the judge during many of the hearings and was able to record both on and off the record discussions. Kupchik found that adult court actors "bifurcated case processing into two distinct stages: during earlier stages of case processing they rely on a criminal justice model, and during the sentencing stage of case processing they rely on a juvenile justice model." The criminal justice model is characterized by court decision making that is based on characteristics of offenses with the main goal of sentencing being punishment. The juvenile justice model, on the other hand, is characterized by an offender-based model, which uses a broad range of information on the offender to encourage offender rehabilitation. Kupchik's

findings challenge the popular notion that juveniles transferred to adult criminal courts are subjected to a purely adult criminal model of justice.

H. Ted Rubin, (2005), *Evening Reporting Centers: Coming to American Juvenile Justice, Juvenile Justice Update*.

Efforts to reduce the use of secure detention and keep juveniles in their home and school settings has resulted in several communities implementing Evening Reporting Centers (ERCs). Rubin reviews the operational details of ERCs operating in Chicago, San Francisco and Santa Cruz County, California. The Chicago ERC targets technical probation violators, juveniles who recidivate with a nonviolent offense and juveniles who fail to appear for court hearings. The Chicago ERC operates between 3 and 9 p.m., five days per week and it provides food to the juveniles. ERC staff pick-up the juveniles at school or home, and then transport them home afterwards. Their average enrollment is 17. Chicago has an ERC specifically for girls which offers gender specific programming. The Santa Cruz County program opened in March of 2005, and it targets juvenile probationers with serious substance abuse problems. The program runs between 4 and 8 pm and the staff also provide transportation to and from the ERC site. They incorporate *Seven Challenges* as well as *Thinking for a Change* into their ERC. Rubin states that jurisdictions considering the adoption of an ERC must resolve several issues including: whether to contract out administration of the ERC, whether to focus on a specific population or accept all juveniles; whether to accept serious offenders; and whether girls should be served at the same facility as boys.

JUVENILE JUSTICE TRIVIA ANSWER

ADJC juveniles are four times as likely to have been in a recent physical fight as other juveniles. According to the 2004 Arizona Youth Survey, 71% of ADJC juveniles reported being in a physical fight on school property during the past 12 months compared to only 17% of all Arizona juveniles.

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